

#21A  
4-21-02  
M.L.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Markus BLUME *et al.*

Application No.:

Group Art Unit: not yet assigned

Filed:

Examiner: not yet assigned

For: METHOD FOR SEARCHING FOR  
DATA OR DATA-HOLDING  
RESOURCES STORED CURRENTLY  
OR AT AN EARLIER TIME ON A  
DISTRIBUTED SYSTEM, WHERE  
ACCOUNT IS TAKEN OF THE TIME  
OF ITS/THEIR AVAILABILITY

Attorney Docket No.: MTL-001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
BOX PCT

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In the Specification

Page 1, before line 5, insert --BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--;

Page 3, before line 19, insert --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--;

Page 6, before line 20, insert --BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS-- and

Page 6, before line 33, insert --DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED  
EMBODIMENTS--.

In the Claims

Before claim 1, delete "U.S. claims" and insert --WE CLAIM: --.

In the Abstract

Line 10, please delete "[Fig. 1]".